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The College News, 1981-10-8, Vol 4, No. 2

Students of Bryn Mawr College

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COLLEGE NEWS

Vol 4, No 2

Oct 8 1981

Budget Requests

	Request	Budgeted
Athletic Association	\$ 191.75	\$ 140.00
College News	850.54	325.00
Curriculum Committee	880.00	650.00
Dorm Fund	450.00	450.00
Faculty-Student Committee	135.00	100.00
Film Series	2901.02	3000.00
Italian Club	1315.00	200.00
Junior Class	80.00	80.00
Puerto Rican Action	674.00	274.00
Senior Class	0.00	400.00
SGA Cushion	4000.00	4000.00
Sisterhood	1950.00	530.00
Social Committee	7200.00	5200.00
Sophomore Class	700.00	200.00
Spanish Club	789.00	449.00
Traditions	3501.00	3501.00
Women's Alliance	1850.00	1510.00
Total	27467.31	21009.00

The October 5 elections have been invalidated owing to misspelled names on the ballots. In addition, no candidate for senior class president won a majority of the vote. Reruns will be held at dinner on Thursday, Oct. 8.

SGA announces November plenary; first held in two years

Plenary will be held at Bryn Mawr on Sunday, November 8. It will be the first Plenary to be called since March 1979, and several steps had to be taken before the decision to call a Plenary could be made. 616 students registered for Plenary during academic registration, which satisfied the 40% requirement to consider calling Plenary. According to SGA president Leann Ayers, the registration was not actually binding, but more of a referendum to see whether people would come if a Plenary were held. At the SGA meeting on September 20, Ms. Ayers broached the issue of holding Plenary by announcing that 616 students had registered, and that Plenary would be discussed at both the next SGA meeting and the next Steering Committee meeting. Ms. Ayers noted also that both the SGA president and the rest of the SGA membership had the power to call a Plenary without the support of the other, and that once announced, a Plenary had to be held.

SGA members discussed the positive and negative aspects of holding a Plenary: some felt it would be a good chance for students to express views, and others felt it was necessary to hold a Plenary so that issues such as cooperation could be discussed in a "hash it out session." We "need ... just to talk," said another student. Still another, referring to cooperation, said that there are "absolutely mind-boggling misconceptions" on all sides about what "other people think."

Continuing to stress reasons to hold Plenary, students suggested that it is "about time" to discuss "our Honor Code again," and that students need to take more responsibility as a group. Finally, some felt the community should discuss women's issues. Alternatives, however, were also proposed. One student mentioned the possibility of holding a series of small discussion sessions rather than meeting in a large and possibly emotional crowd. It was suggested that Plenary should not be a forum for discussing issues, but for discussing and voting on amendments to the constitution.

A sense of the meeting taken at the close of the SGA session showed that the SGA favored having Plenary. The Steering Committee met on Tuesday, September 22 and decided to hold Plenary on November 8. The location will be Goodhart Auditorium.

Ms. Ayers summed up the importance of Plenary by saying that "you don't need people there to talk ..." as much as "having people there to hear."

--Ellen Medearis

SGA president Leann Ayers and other members of the Steering Committee are compiling a list of priorities for the Student Government to address. Committee members have asked for suggestions and request that any student who is concerned about SGA priorities contact a member of the Steering Committee.

SGA Officers

Leann Ayers (President)	Lunt 24	649-2388
Maggie Breen (Vice-President)	Brecon 313	x6296
Judy Bloom (Secretary)	Erdman 134	x5539
Jim Tanner (Treasurer)	Radnor 313	x5931
Margot Boigon (Honor Board Head)	Rock 15	x6085
Teresa Lazo (Activities Head)	Rock 46	x6121
Eliza Dixon (Activities Head)	Off Campus	525-5292
Cindy Konecko (Residence Council Head)	Merion 17	x5697
Melissa Davy (Curriculum Committee Head)	Haffner 333	x5634
Judy Calhoun (Traditions Mistress)	Rock 37	x6108
Mary Ann Koory (Appointed)	Erdman 351	x5512
Michele Walters (Appointed)	Pembroke East 1	x5752

College News

Anne Shaughnessy	Betsy Westphal
Alison Pierce	Liz Nutting
Florence Fusco	Margaret Schulz
Anne Lafferty	Judy Calhoun
Ellen Medearis	Melodie Burford
Diedre Shupp	Betsy Duren
Julia Fasick	Saskie Gugler
Sharon Gerstel	Betsy Hong
Beth Davis	Lori Ratajczak
Lisa Schiffrin	Lauren A. Williams
Debi Nathanson	L. Gruss

The College News is a bi-weekly publication dedicated to the women and men of Bryn Mawr College: staff, faculty, administration, trustees, alumnae, graduate students, and undergraduates. Articles, letters to the editor, and help with production are welcome. Our box is located in Erdman Hall.

Trustees discuss construction, cooperation

Projected construction work on campus, Cooperation, and the College's future were topics of discussion at the Board of Trustees' session on October 2 and 3.

The Board voted to approve the design plans for next summer's Pembroke West renovations which have been drawn up by Dagit Saylor, the architectural firm which designed the Denbigh renovations. Bids will be accepted for the contract to carry out the work on Pembroke West.

The site of the new gym has been tentatively changed from the Robin Hood Dell area to the lower playing field. Drainage difficulties may pose a problem at the new site; the Trustees are waiting for a report on this before giving final approval of the site. Should the playing field be used for the gym, a new playing field would be created in the Robin Hood Dell area.

The Trustees also discussed plans for changes at Glermede: landscaping renovations and increased parking space. This work is tentatively scheduled for this spring.

Still another project discussed at the meeting was an addition to the Erdman kitchen, to be built this summer, which would increase the kitchen's efficiency.

Other topics dealt with by the Board included the '80-'81 College budget, which proved to include a small surplus, and energy conservation. The Trustees expressed approval of students' past efforts to conserve energy, and they hope that these efforts will continue.

The conflict concerning the News was an issue of concern, as was the increased friction over Cooperation. Members of the Board expressed strong support for maintaining Bryn Mawr as a women's college.

cont. page 3

Letter to the Editor

The other day I picked up a spare copy of the College News, got a cup of coffee at Thomas, and innocently sat down to read. Starting at page one to the last word of Ms. Dixon's and Mr. Carter's letter, I was completely disgusted.

Cooperation needs more help now than ever before. Yet these women take it upon themselves to wreak all the havoc on it that they can. I write this as a rebuttal to their viewpoint, so that other readers of the College News can rest assured that there are also vocal people who SUPPORT Cooperation. Cooperation has been a facet of this community for quite a while now; we all knew that before we applied. If they are discouraged that people seek out Haverford College for political activities, don't blame Haverford. Instead, why not re-examine the allure of what they themselves have to offer. I respect Bryn Mawr as an institution, but I am losing the warm feeling and unity I felt as a fledgling freshman. I completely disagree with what these women propose, and see an ugly, bad-natured, jealous, and chauvinistic side of feminism and the Mawrters developing.

Bryn Mawr is still a woman's institution (unlike the real world) and cooperation and Haverford only touches you if you want it to. If not, try to show a little compassion and understanding. Remember, men are people too, and if you can't find satisfying feminist doctrines at Bryn Mawr, I don't think "Cooperation" is to blame.

Alexandria Levitt
Bryn Mawr College '84

The College News welcomes letters to the editor, which will be printed as space allows.

Women's Alliance sponsors speaker on abortion

At the women's Alliance meeting on Wednesday, September 23, guest speaker Sue Simon from the Philadelphia Reproductive Rights Organization spoke to students about growing anti-abortion sentiment in this country, possible legislation, and its consequences.

During informal discussion, Sue Simon broached the subject on a personal note with an account of her own experience with abortion as a student in 1968: going to England, telling her parents, and paying \$2000. She noted that a number of her friends in college had had to go through the same ordeal, and she stressed the fact that abortion is not as unusual an occurrence as it is commonly thought to be. The shame and secretiveness women are forced to feel during the abortion process, she said, generates much of the fear surrounding it. In an effort to counter this unfounded anxiety, the Philadelphia Reproductive Rights Organization has launched a campaign much

next column, please

like the one in New York City. That campaign features a picture of five women and reads: "Guess which one of these women had an abortion? All of them."

Two pieces of legislation have been proposed by pro-life groups: in Pennsylvania, the Abortion Control Act; and on the national level, the Right to Life Amendment.

The Abortion Control Act was the main topic of discussion. Ms. Simon said that the act would give Pennsylvania "the most restrictive and harassing laws in the country," and that it "stood an excellent chance of passing." In early October it may be voted out of committee and passed on to the predominantly conservative House and Senate where the P.R.R.O. warns it would be ratified.

Although the Abortion Control Act would not render abortion unlawful, the process of getting an abortion would be made considerably more difficult. A woman seeking an abortion

next column

would have to wait 72 hours after giving informed consent before the abortion could be performed. Doctors would be required to describe the procedure in detail, using color slides of the fetus before and after the abortion. A death certificate and the burial or cremation of the fetus would be mandatory. The father, and also the parents in the case of a minor, would have to be notified. Abortions would not be covered in state employee health plans, and would not be performed in public hospitals.

The group also discussed what students could do to kill the bill before it is ratified. Ms. Simon mentioned the fact that Friend and Cunningham of Haverford, who are coming up for re-election soon, are two of the 22 representatives who co-sponsored the bill. She encouraged people to write their State Representative and Senator. The state legislature will be voting on this bill in the next two weeks.

--Saskia Gugler

Overcrowded meals result from Haffner's new popularity

Severe overcrowding in Haffner Dining Hall prompted the Food Service to conduct a survey at dinner on October 1, asking diners what their reasons were for choosing Haffner that day. Director of Food Services Gail Finan hopes the results of the survey will help her find ways to remedy the overcrowding.

Students' responses were varied. Some cited the food, in particular the salad bar and the frozen yogurt. Others emphasized Haffner's atmosphere, its small individual rooms, and the double serving counter which helps speed the food line. Ms. Finan indicated that while she can take steps to decrease imbalances in food quality between Haffner and the other halls -- perhaps

by installing a frozen yogurt machine in Erdman, for example -- she has no means of encouraging students who come just for the atmosphere to choose other halls. She is opposed to the idea of students being assigned to specified dining halls. She stressed, though, that "the management and the people who work here can't keep up this pace."

Haffner was already crowded last year, serving about 350 students per dinner. This year the expanded facilities were expected to relieve the crowding. On the contrary, the number of Haffner diners has risen to about 450 this year, and the figure has been known to top 500. Lunch at Haffner is likewise overcrowded.

Double serving counter

notwithstanding, the food lines at lunch and dinner are not always short. Ms. Finan encourages students to arrive early at dinner (Haffner opens at 5:00) to avoid the crowds.

--Betsy Duren

Trustees from p. 2

The Board of Trustees held one private meeting, closed to non-Trustees, for the purpose of discussing the future of the College.

Members of the Board are interested in sleeping in a BMC residence hall during their next session, in December. Students willing to host a Trustee should contact Sharon Gerstel, x5751.

--Betsy Duren

Lantern Night :

Among Bryn Mawr's many traditions, Lantern Night is the most solemn and serious. Most Bryn Mawrtys believe that Lantern Night, their oldest Tradition, has remained unchanged, semi-sacred and inviolable during the 96 years of the College's history.

The ceremony itself is highly ritualized in its mystery and beauty. On a dark night in early October, the freshmen line up under Pembroke Arch, wearing batrobes for the first time, in high excitement. No less excited are the sophomores, frantically lighting lanterns in the darkened hallways of Thomas. The more blasé seniors take their places in their arches in the cloisters as "swingers"; junior "swingers" await their moment behind them. On the roof, other upperclassmen and parents stand and watch as the freshmen file silently in and stand in rows toward the back of the cloisters. Then, led by the songmistresses standing around the duckpond, the swingers begin to raise and lower their lanterns and sing "Pallas Athena," and then the sophomores enter, singing, carrying the lanterns to the freshmen.

Pallas Athena, goddess
of learning and power
we come to thee to make
sacrifice in thy honor
Oh dread Goddess, hear oh
hear!

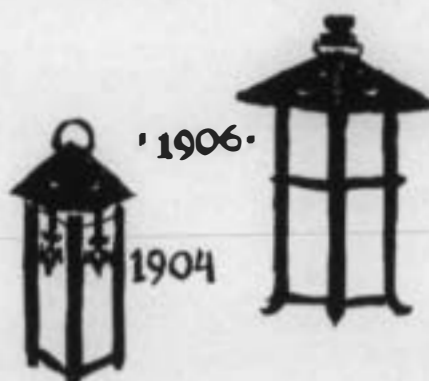
Look favorably upon us, we
beg; grant us wisdom; go
along with us always!
Blessed Goddess, hear oh
hear!

Make holy our Lanterns!
May they always shine clear,
showing the way and chang-
ing darkness to light.
Hear oh hear!

--Translation from "Fifty
years at Bryn Mawr," 1935

They, of course, sing this
all in Greek. Soon all the
lanterns are given out, to

light one more class through
its years at Bryn Mawr. The
singing stops, juniors assume
the seniors' places in the
arches, and the freshmen pick
up the lanterns which have
been placed behind them. They
sing "Sophias," the College
Hymn, another solemn Greek
song, and file out. Tied to
the chain of each freshman's
lantern are invitations to
tea from three or four upperclassmen.
There is then a step sing,
the first "proper" step sing
of the year, with the seniors
on their steps at Taylor.



The freshmen must leave their
lanterns lit, for the freshman
in each hall whose lantern
goes out last will someday
be hall president; superstition
also has it that if you drop
wax on your batrobe, you will
someday get a Ph.D.

Unchangeably ritualized
though this may seem, the
sophomores who gave lanterns
to the freshmen in 1886 would
hardly recognize the ceremony;
the only similarity is that
both involved lanterns. In
1886, a professor at Bryn
Mawr wrote a song called "The
Only Lantern in Bryn Mawr,"
picking up on a joke which
was being made at the time
that although the lantern
was the symbol of learning,
the only lantern in Bryn Mawr
was the one carried by the
"Lantern Man" who walked girls
home from the train station
after dark. The students were
indignant and decided that
something must be done. One
afternoon, the sophomores



lined up the freshmen and
performed a strange, impromptu
skit for them. They then quizzed
them and, as a reward, gave
them four-inch high lanterns.
The Lantern Ceremony became
more and more elaborate; in
1897, the sophomores performed
As You Like It before giving
the lanterns. After that,
they realized how much more
effective the lanterns could
be in the dark, so Lantern
Nights began. They still were
not called Lantern Nights,
however, but "Cap and Gown
Nights." This was because
the freshmen also received
their academic robes and caps
that afternoon, for which
they had been measured weeks
ahead of time and which they
were eagerly anticipating.
These were considered a symbol
of scholarliness, and the
upperclassmen had been wearing
theirs for months, making
the gownless freshmen feel
very freshmanly. Around the
turn of the century, the Lantern
ceremony was only the beginning
of the night's fun. After
the ceremony, in which only
freshmen and sophomores participated,
the freshmen went from hall
to hall singing their class
song to the juniors and then
went to a step sing under
Pembroke Arch. Then the real
fun began: the freshmen spent
the whole night guarding their
newly acquired academic gowns
from the sophomores, who worked
under the theory that "freshmen
would never sufficiently value

a tradition that endures

their academic costume if they did not have to guard it first." The 1902 yearbook mentions searching the insides of peoples' pillows and picking the locks of dressers, claiming that "a little hazing of this sort did more to promote good fellowship than a dozen teas."

Tea invitations with Lantern Night only started when the "quizzing" stopped. Then the single upperclassman who handed the freshman her lantern would leave a little card inside it, expressing her good wishes and inviting her to tea. They became her "Lantern girl."

Each year the sophomores would design a different lantern for the freshmen, with a number of panes adding up to the sum of the two digits of the freshman class; i.e., the class of '26 would have 8 panes. There was also a special silver lantern passed on from seniors to juniors at the last step sing every year. The class of '89, who never had sophomores to give them lanterns, received little silver charms of lanterns as a graduation gift from the rest of the school, indicating how important the symbol of the lantern had already become.

Lantern Night has also changed in its time, its location, and its music. For many years it was held in early November. In the minds of many of the participants, the outstanding feature of Lantern Night seems to have been the cold; the class of 1905 fondly remembered the moonlight on the snow at their Lantern Night. Held at first on the Hockey Field, the ceremony soon moved to Denbigh Green and thence to the Cloisters when they were built. The songs sung at early Lantern Nights were simply the class songs of the freshmen and sophomores. "Pallas Athena" was the class song of 1893, but it was not adopted as the official sophomore song

until 1901. "Sophias" was an even later addition. In 1917, the freshmen chose "On the way to the Sacred Shrine" as their Lantern Night song. This was sung for several years, but M. Carey Thomas complained that it wasn't solemn enough, and many agreed with her; so two women adapted



•1901•

Pericles' funeral oration from Thucydides to music from a Russian Service by A. F. Lvoff -- and "Sophias" came to be used.

Lantern Night has not changed drastically in recent years, though at least the '50s upperclassmen wore their gowns "flung open so their white dresses show[ed]" while the freshmen kept their gowns closed. Until the '60s, the freshmen continued to receive their own academic gowns; now most people borrow one from the College's collection. Some of the long-sleeved gowns are so old that in their day they were probably guarded from mischievous sophomores on Cap and Gown Nights.

Lantern Night, though certainly Bryn Mawr's most solemn and serious Tradition, is by no means unchanging. None of Bryn Mawr's traditions are rigid, for this leads to stagnation; they change as the College changes, to suit its needs. But the spirit of Lantern Night has continued for nearly a century, and as we receive our Lanterns, we feel that

the Light of wisdom is being passed in a direct line from the first Bryn Mawrtyrs to us: this is what has made the ceremony important to so many generations at the College.

--Betsy Honig

(Reprinted from last year's College News)

Author's note: I would like to make one comment on this article. This year's freshmen were told, in a Customs newsletter, that they had to pay a fee to "retain" their lanterns. The fee that they paid was actually to pay for Customs week, since the activities ran over the budget. The cost of the lanterns is in fact, for some obscure administrative purpose, put in with the Customs week budget. However, there is no question of the freshmen having to pay in any way for their lanterns: they have already been paid for and should be looked upon as a gift from the upperclassmen.

Traditions Announcements

Lantern Night will be Fri., Oct. 9 at 7:30 pm in the Cloisters. \$1.50 admission will be charged for non-two-college members. All Freshmen, Sophomores, and Swingers should be at Thomas by 7:15.

Anyone interested in working on preliminary preparations for Grand May Day should contact Judy Calhoun, Rock 37, x6108.

People who would like to work on repairing, organizing, or making May Day costumes should contact Barbara Menard, Merion 61, x5738.

Faculty, alums comment on the value of a liberal arts education

A number of enthusiastic students attended the Career Planning Office's forum on Life, work, and the Humanities on September 26. The forum opened with a talk by Mabel Lang, of the Greek department, on the nature of a liberal arts education and its value today. Miss Lang stated that while such training does not provide one with immediately practical skills, it does teach one to think precisely and logically, and to express one's thoughts clearly. Unlike technical skills, which soon become obsolete in this age of rapidly changing technology, the skills gained from a liberal arts education are enduring, and are transferable from one area of work to another. The liberal arts free their students from being tied to a single field; for this reason, they play an important role in achieving the liberation of women.

A panel discussion followed Lang's address. The participants were alumnae who had majored in an area of the liberal arts or humanities, but who had not all chosen to continue in their major field. Those who took part were: Deborah Alper, '74, a trial attorney whose major was Philosophy; Cathleen Ash, '74, a district manager for AT&T who majored in Archaeology; Susan Edmiston, '61, the executive editor of *Savvy* magazine, a Philosophy major; Susan Klaus, '67, a consultant who majored in Political Science; Alyson Scott, '72, a senior associate of the Hay Group, whose major was English; Laurie Solomon, '70, a vice-president of Ogilvy and Mather Advertising, and a History of Art major; and Gabrielle Spiegel, '64, a History major who has continued in her field and is now an associate professor of history at the University of Maryland. The discussion was facilitated by Richard Hamilton of the Greek department and by Dale

Kinney of the History of Art department.

The panelists felt that a liberal arts education, and their work at Bryn Mawr in particular, had trained them to think creatively, to express their views clearly, and to be critical of their own and others' ideas. They learned to deal with large amounts of information, to analyze problems, and to synthesize ideas. Their liberal arts training had developed their ability to learn, to think on their feet, and to adapt to different situations; it fostered the attitude of curiosity, which is a rare and valuable asset in the world of work. The alumnae felt that being trained in the liberal arts was what was important, that no major was better than another, and that one should take the opportunity to study what one is interested in, since the opportunity may never come again. As for post-baccalaureate training, it is not necessary in some fields, such as business, though it can help one to rise faster.

Besides the effect of liberal arts training on their lives and work, the panelists discussed what it was like to be a woman in a working environment. In their relations with their colleagues and clients, the alumnae felt that the situation depended on the individuals involved, but that a few generalizations could be made. While younger men are beginning to treat women as equal colleagues, older men seem to have difficulty seeing women in this role, and try to force them to take on the characteristics of more familiar roles, such as that of a secretary, daughter, or wife. Women can be very supportive of each other, and help each other compete with men rather than competing with each other. Older women, however, who blazed the trail into the business world for women, can be possessive of

their hard-earned positions, and jealous of other women. The panelists seemed to prefer working with women rather than with men, because they feel that women are more likely to cooperate with others to do a job well, whereas men seem to be primarily concerned with their own advancement.

Following the forum, a reception was given in the Crenshaw Room in Taylor. Students had the opportunity there to talk to the panelists and to have their own questions answered. The message of the alumnae seemed to be summed up by Alyson Scott, who advised that liberal arts students apply their training not only to their academic work and their careers, but to their entire lives as well.

--Lori Ratajczak

More Traditions announcement

LANTERN NIGHT REHEARSALS --
Cloisters

Thursday 4 pm

Friday 4 pm (mandatory)

BATROBE SIGN-OUTS -- third
floor Taylor

Thursday 1 pm -- 5 pm

Friday 9 am -- 5 pm

Sophomores and Swingers
get first priority on bat-
robes.

RETURNS

Saturday 9 am -- 5 pm

All batrobes must be re-
turned by 5 pm on Saturday,
as students will not be al-
lowed to eat after Saturday
without their meal cards.

The Society for the Preservation of
Bryn Mawr as a Non-Hyphenated
Entity, in cooperation with the Picnic
Decoration Committee, announces a
limited edition t-shirt, for the low
price of \$5.00, in classic feminist
colors, green and white. front will
display Bryn Mawr seal, surrounded
by the phrase "Bryn Mawr: a Non-
Hyphenated Entity." Back will read
"Bryn Mawr qua Bryn Mawr." Place
orders (with check or cash) in Betsy
Hornig's mailbox, Merion Hall.

Freshmen plays promise great things to come

Music and displays of talent predominated when the Class of 1985 presented its Freshman Hall Plays on September 18 and 19. Almost all of the nine shows included songs: parodies of Bryn Mawr, Customs week, upperclassmen, and, of course, Haverford. Bi-college relationships, or lack thereof, were a common theme.

"Pem East Mania" led off the mania of the evening's entertainment with BMC alumnae reminiscing about their years at Bryn Mawr. Their memories were obviously of the '60s, with Beatles songs parodied by a batrobed kickline and punctuated by the inevitable Pem East Unicorn. Rhoads was awarded "Best Script" for its concise portrayal of "That Community Spirit," which thoughtfully included all four of the interested Rhoads freshmen. Their show, which discussed the near impossibility of throwing together a play in one week, seemed remarkably apropos to those of us who have attempted to recruit many volunteers for our freshmen

efforts. After only 15 minutes of rehearsal, Erdman proceeded to execute a kickline which would have made the Rockettes happy. The judges rewarded their efforts with a well-deserved "Best Kickline."

One of the more humorous sketches was Denbigh's "BMC News," which included a clipping of "Customs" people searching incoming freshmen's luggage for illicit and/or desirable belongings. Sports news included a discussion of stair-climbing prompted by the climb to Brecon, and Megan the Weatherlady received "Best Featured Actress" for her dreary description of Customs week weather. Rockefeller concluded the first evening with "Fantasy College." Mr. Rourke was replaced by a portrayal of Betty Verney, and the guests were incoming freshmen with fantasies about Bryn Mawr studies and Haverford men. Among the highlights of the skit were the signs carried across stage by "natives," one of whom responded to a lament for Haverford men by

claiming, "There are only boys at Haverford."

Pemwest led off the second evening with an untitled parody of "Three Blind Mice." The multi-versed song satirized many aspects of Bryn Mawr life. The actors sat on the edge of the stage for their performance, which earned them an award for "Best Use of the Stage Extension." "Best Direction" was awarded to the next show, "Radnor's Effort," which discussed the birth of cooperation with a Romeo and Juliet theme, and concluded with the desperate plight of sex-starved Bryn Mawr freshmen tired of Jane Austen.

Haffner's absence caused some disruption in the schedule, which led to Brecon's "Purple Parlor" being performed next. Brecon's performance featured a number of stereotypes, including a Clark Kent-ish H'ford grind who captured the attention of the Brecon women. Their songs were clever, and their outrageous dress was awarded "Best Costumes." The whole thing was lit with pale lavender specials. Concluding the evening was Merion's adaptation of Victor Hugo, "Les Mawrterables." Superbly performed and directed, the play dealt with the trials and tribulations of Jane Doe Jane, banished to Erdman Lost Corridor for failing to pay her SGA dues, who found sanctuary and rehabilitation in Merion. The show, which included parodies of well-known campus figures and delicately touched some controversial issues, earned "Best Actress" and an award for the three white-clad toilets.

We were amused by the Freshman Hall Plays and impressed by the individual talent displayed by the Class of 1985. We look forward to a spectacular freshman show in February.

--Betsy Westphal

--Liz Nutting

You and your friends are cordially invited
to take part in
*English-American
Dancing*

Dances are held in the Music Room of Goodhart about every third Saturday night from 8:00 pm till about midnight. (Of course, you are free to come and go when you wish.) Tea is served, and beginners are always welcome. We do contra dancing and some square dancing. ¶ For the rest of this semester, dances are scheduled for:

October 31 ~
November 14 ~
and
December 5

Watch the Guide for the Perplexed and the College News for future dance dates.

Things that go boom in the night, and other stories...

The Bush Tetras are a four-member, all-lesbian band from New York. Their music is quite unusual. A really weird use of drums and guitar makes the music sound almost contorted. The lyrics, coupled with the music, leave one with the impression that the Bush Tetras are really warped.

The Tetras write all their own songs. Pat Place, formerly of the Contortions, plays the guitar, Laura Kennedy plays bass, Dee Pop plays drums, and Cynthia Sley produces vocals as unusual as the music backing her up.

Two singles are now available by the Bush Tetras and are not hard to find. One is "Two Many Creeps" backed with "Snakes Crawl" and "You Taste Like the Tropics." This single is receiving a lot of airplay on WHRC as well as WXPX in this area.

"Too Many Creeps" is about going to singles bars: I just don't wanna go out in the streets no more Because these people they give me the creeps anymore I just can't pay the price of shopping around anymore Because there's just nothing that's worth the cost 'cause it's the worst.

The music is strange but danceable, and if 99 Records, the recording company which put out the record, had the influence of CBS, the song would probably be a big hit. "Snakes Crawl" is a weirder song. The music is slow and the lyrics are a list of what things do:

Snakes crawl
Babies fall
Cars crash
Heads bash.

"You Taste like the Tropics" is a great song, but the lyrics are predictably offensive.

The other Bush Tetras single I have is also very interesting. "Things that go Boom in the

Night" backed with "Das Ah Riot" is generally slower and less easily danced to than the "Too Many Creeps" single, but it's still fun. "Things that go Boom in the Night" has the distinctive Bush Tetras beat. The lyrics are about being alone at night and hearing noises -- something that people who like to walk alone at night could sympathize with:

Are you scared that things go boom in the night?
Are you scared when there is no one in sight?
To know how to fight ...
To know someone's there
In the night.

"Das Ah Riot" has a faster beat and interesting percussion -- a very good dance song. The lyrics of the song are the most warped of all the Bush Tetras and, as far as I can tell, make no sense whatsoever. That's all right, though, it's still a good song.

I'm sorry to report that the Tetras' October 5 date at Ripley's has been cancelled. I've been told they're going to reschedule, so I hope that later this year we'll be able to see them perform live as well as listen to their singles.

--Debi Nathanson

Afterwords expands its hours, menu

Afterwords, the student-run cafe in Denbigh Hall, reopened Monday, September 28th with a new schedule and menu. Its permanent hours are: Forewords, 8:30-10:30, Monday through Friday, serving fresh bagels, coffee, and fresh fruit; Afterwords, 8:00-12:00, Sunday through Friday. This expanded schedule will permit the cafe to replace the now-closed College Inn as a campus night spot; Lynn Gordon and Ilene Nickelsberg, managers of Afterwords, hope to feature evening entertainment. The menu, now replete with sandwiches, English muffin pizzas, and a take-out service, will offer students an alternative to cafeteria meals.

Opening night began slowly: eggs and olives needed to be chopped minutes before the door opened, and few people came to the first hour (Lynn hopes that people will take advantage of the service at all hours). By 10:00, however, the cafe was well filled with groups coming to relax. Inevitably, Afterwords was compared to the College Inn. Afterwords' ambience was rated far superior to the Inn's: plants, lights and artwork have been quietly used for a pleasing, low-key

atmosphere. Complaints were directed towards the menu and food; some bemoaned items' cost, while others hoped for more "munchies," i.e. cheeseburgers and potato chips (chips will be served).

The management of Afterwords has not finalized prices yet. Afterwords does not intend to be a profit-making organization. Lynn hopes to coordinate prices and costs to enable her to pay the staff minimum wage. Beyond this, if costs are low, prices will reflect the fact. Afterwords sees itself as a community service: for example, to promote interaction between the faculty and student body, Afterwords intends to serve faculty members coffee at 15 to 20 cents a cup.

Once the Afterwords routine has stabilized (fixed prices, and perhaps the addition of a much-needed microwave oven to the kitchen equipment), it will be an excellent addition to the community. Afterwords traditions may be established: the Thursday movie and Afterwords exam crams and Afterwords coffee. Afterwords may become an institution.

--Lauren A. Williams